

BARRY BRECHEISEN/METROMIX FILE



MARDI GRAS MENU

Big Jones 5347 N. Clark St. 773-275-5725

Feast on New Orleans and Fat Tuesday favorites such as julienned alligator tail with spicy red sauce and butter rice (\$24), vegetarian gumbo (\$8), fried oyster po' boy (\$15), king cake (\$8) and calas (rice fritters, \$9). 5-9 p.m.

MARDI GRAS CRAWFISH BOIL

Fat Cat 4840 N. Broadway 773-506-3100 Dig in to a pound of crawfish with potatoes and corn for \$15. The bar also gives beads, plays zydeco music and offers specials on king cake (\$5), hurricanes (\$8), Abita Purple Haze raspberry lager (\$5) and Lakefront Big Easy maibock (\$6). 4 p.m. No cover.

ABITA TAP TAKEOVER

The Southern 1840 W. North Ave. 773-342-1840

Try the Louisiana brewery's Grapefruit Harvest IPA, Naughty Quaker oatmeal stout, Twin Turbo brown ale and Wrought Iron IPA on draft. Cover includes all-youcan-eat crawfish and a hurricane or Abita beer. 6 p.m. \$15.

GRAND FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION

Bordel 1721 W. Division St. 773-227-8600 The Wicker Park lounge offers Mardi Gras-themed

specials including hurricanes (\$10), jambalaya (\$10) and beignets (\$5) with powdered sugar and Grand Marnier sauce. The Four Star Brass Band performs. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover.

KEVIN PANG/TRIBUNE FILE



BIG EASY BOOZIN' IN THE BASEMENT Punch House 1227 W. 18th St. 312-526-3851

Get a taste of Bourbon Street in Pilsen with cocktails such as the Bourbon Street Special Anti-Tank Explosive Punch (a mix of overproof rum, brandy, lime juice, pineapple juice and blue curacao, \$8) and the Absinthe Frappe (absinthe, mint and crushed ice, \$11). 6 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover.



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REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

Tickets are on sale now for the Omega Mardi Gras party on March 21 at Zhou B Art Center: eventbrite.com

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It only takes an hour to apply: peacecorps.gov/apply

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Record low temps possible Thursday

Chicago Tribune

Even for February, it's cold out there.

Temperatures are expected to sink below average this week because of an arctic air mass hanging over the Chicago area, according to the National Weather Service.

The daily high temperatures are expected to be in the single digits until Friday, with wind chills between minus 20 and minus 30 degrees Wednesday night, into Thursday morning.

The National Weather Service is predicting that the low Thursday could break the Feb. 19 record for Chicagoset at minus 7 degrees in 1936. WGN-TV's chief meteorologist Tom Skilling predicted the high on Thursday to be 7, with a low of minus 6.

That's significantly below normal.

The average low for February 2015 has been 18.5 degrees, compared with the historic average for Feb.1-16 of 27.7 degrees, according to National Weather Service meteorologist Amy Seeley.

Illinois state climatologist Jim Angel said February's low temperatures partially can be attributed to heavy snowfall earlier this month.

"All that snow works to keep both the daytime and nighttime temperatures low," Angel said.

He said on average, temperatures start to rise in February compared with the earlier winter months. But he said lows don't always increase steadily because they can be affected by single weather events.

"It is common to see cold temperatures late in the season," Angel said. "In fact, the record lows for early to mid-March are near to below zero."

Seeley said frostbite and hypothermia are a primary concern during periods of low temperatures and wind chills.

The National Weather Service isn't predicting large amounts of snow to accompany the negative wind chills this week. There are slight chances of snow and flurries through Friday.

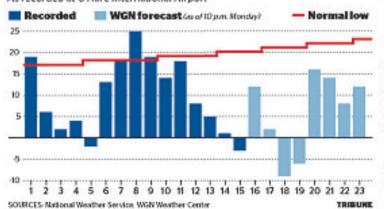
The average snowfall for February is 9.1 inches, according to Seeley So far in February, Chicago has recorded 20.1 inches.

The National Weather Service predicts that temperatures will start to rise on Friday and into the weekend.



DAILY LOW TEMPERATURES THIS MONTH

As recorded at O'Hare International Airport













the chatter / JOIN THE CONVERSATION

SATURDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE



WHO: U.S. citizens, 18 and older, who live in Chicago and need to register to vote or file a name or address change

WHAT: "Grace Period" registration and voting

WHERE: Any of Chicago's 51 Early Voting sites

WHEN: Every day through Sat., Feb. 21

HOW: Present two forms of ID, at least one that shows your current address. Must vote during same visit.

WHY: Under current law, there will NOT be Election Day Registration at the Municipal Election next week.

Learn more at chicagoelections.com

As Metra fares rise, riders turning to CTA



GOING PUBLIC

Tracy
Swartz

• tswartz@
redeyechicago.com
• @tracyswartz

The difference is 25 cents but Joseph Lifsics is ready for change.

After more than two years as a regular Metra rider, Lifsics said he soon will switch to the CTA after the Metra hiked his monthly pass from \$85.50 to \$99.75 as part of systemwide fare increases that

took effect this month to offset higher Metra operating costs.

Though his Metra monthly pass is still 25 cents cheaper than the Stoo CTA monthly pass and his Metra ride is 10 to 15 minutes faster than on the CTA, Lifsics is defecting to the CTA because CTA trains run more frequently for about the same price and he is annoyed by delays along Metra's Union Pacific/North Line, which runs between Kenosha, Wis., and the Ogilvie Transportation Center downtown.

"The choice is not more of a pro-CTA choice as much as it's an anti-Metra choice," said Lifsics, 26, who now drives his car from his Rogers Park home to the Rogers Park Metra station and rides the train to his legal job in the Loop.

When he switches to the CTA, he plans to drive to either the Howard or Morse Red Line stops in Rogers Park and take the Red Line train downtown, where he will have a shorter walk to work. Lifsics said he plans to make the move within weeks when his Metra monthly pass expires.

"I always had my problems with Metra and there's really pros and cons on each side, but I always justified that I am saving myself money so I stuck with Metra. Now, I could get the unlimited CTA pass" for about the same price, he said.

Lifsics is not alone in re-evaluating his Metra commute in the wake of the recent fare hikes—a nearly 11 percent average boost that varies depending on the trip. Some Metra riders who spoke to RedEye say they are frustrated by the increases, which have not immediately translated into better amenities, so they are considering transferring to the CTA, driving or switching jobs so they won't have to rely on Metra.

If more Metra riders choose to switch to

CTA, that could mean more crowded CTA buses and trains. For its part, Metra hasn't calculated its ridership numbers yet for the month, but Metra spokesman Michael Gillis said "there's been no noticeable difference in ridership so far this month."

The CTA still is figuring out its ridership numbers from last year, agency spokespeople said.

"We are monitoring ridership on rail and bus routes that are near Metra lines, and if ridership changes we'll adjust service accordingly," CTA spokeswoman Catherine Hosinski said in an email. "At this time, it's too early to say what impact, if any, Metra's recent fare changes will have on CTA ridership."

Defections may be most noticeable in the spots in Chicago that are served by both Metra and the CTA. The Blue Line and Metra's Union Pacific/Northwest Line both stop at the Jefferson Park station on the Northwest Side. On the South Side in Bronzeville, the 35th Street Red and Green Line stations are blocks away from the 35th Street Metra stop.

Despite last year's polar vortex that brought high snowfall, sub-zero temperatures and multi-day school closures, both Metra and CTA posted ridership increases last year compared with 2013.

Metra reported 83.4 million rides last year, up 1.3 percent versus 2013 and the second-highest annual total in the agency's 30-year history.

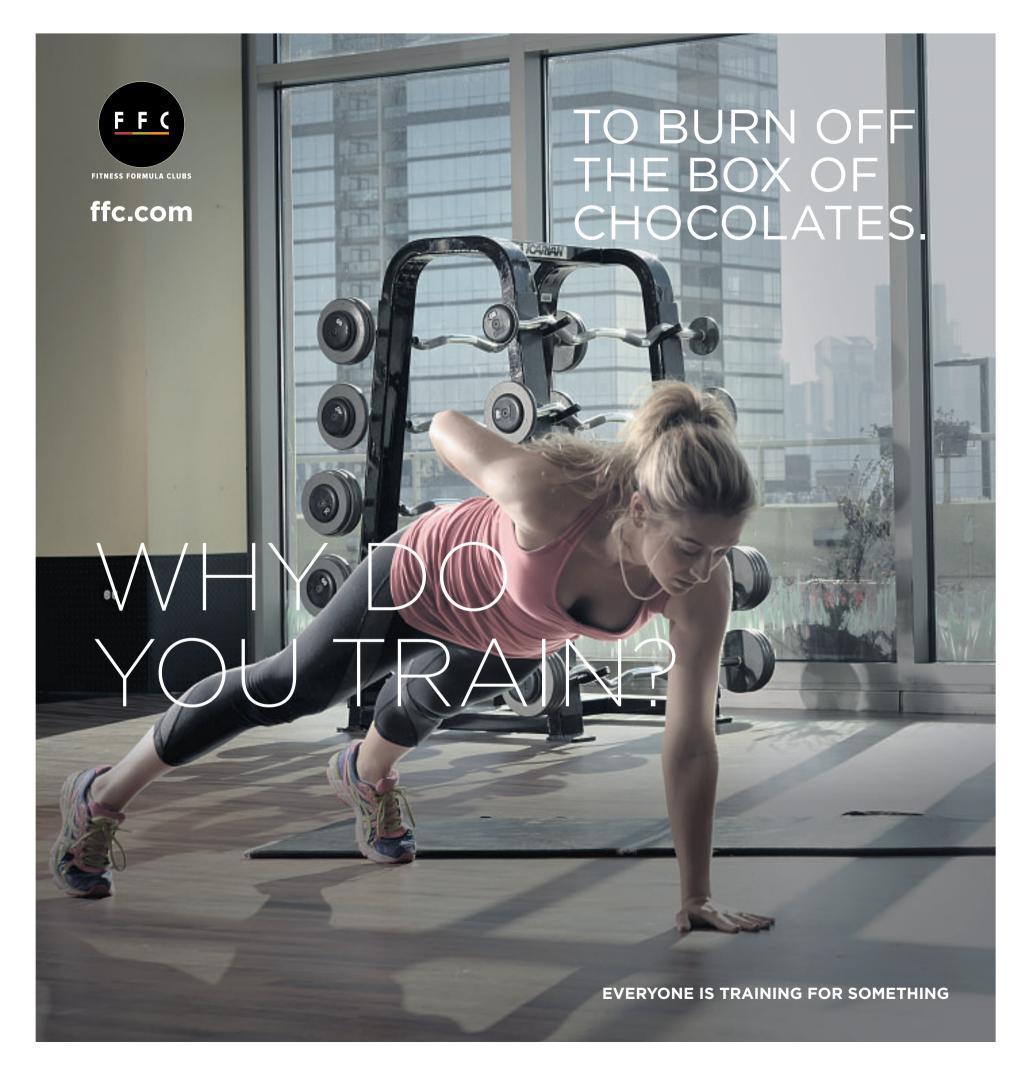
CTA spokesman Brian Steele said the agency still is finalizing its numbers but data through November shows a 4.2 percent rise in rail ridership versus 2013.

The CTA last bumped its pass prices in January 2013 and it's unclear whether hikes are on the table next year.

Metra officials have acknowledged that ridership could decrease in accordance with the hikes, which Metra has proposed to continue for the next 10 years.

But some Chicagoans like Diane Kieres, of Edison Park, will be sticking with Metra despite the fare increases. Kieres said she could take the CTA Blue Line to downtown but has found her 25-minute Metra ride takes half the time and she's able to find a seat most of the time.

"I feel that the Metra increases are insane. Ten percent increase for the next five years and it will be years until we see improvements," Kieres told RedEye. "Although I'm unhappy about the Metra increase due to their mismanagement I still use Metra to get to work."



Chicagoans can verify they've registered to vote, find their polling place and see who the candidates are for alderman of their ward on the Chicago elections. com/en/your-voter-information.html ELECTED OFFICALS

5 WAYS THE MAYOR AFFECTS YOUR LIFE

Aldermen serve four-year

terms and earn six-figure

paychecks. Salary for be-

118.000, based on if the

alderman decides to take a

ing an alderman varies

cost-of-living increase.

between

By Leonor Vivanco | REDEYE

From protected bike lanes and summer festivals to speeding tickets and potholes, and yes, even your next career move, the mayor of Chicago can play a role in your everyday life.

The mayor sets the agenda for the operation and future of the city and lines up the votes on the City Council to pass his proposals from the parking meter lease to the minimum wage increase. The mayor also has a say in how the money taxpayers hand over should be spent and if residents should pay more. As the face of the city, he or she also can throw his or her weight around in luring companies to bring their headquarters and jobs to Chi-

cago, persuading George Lucas to build a museum on the lakefront and trying to land the Obama presidential library here.

With the Feb. 24 city election looming, voters ponder everything from whom to pick to whether it even matters—and statistics show that the overwhelming majority don't exercise their civic duty in municipal elections. Experts have weighed in time and again, suggesting low voter turnout is the result of everything from Chicago's cold weather to indifference.

Here are some reminders about how Chicago's top elected official has an effect on those who work and live in Chicago.

Crime and punishment

News ******************************

Chicago has been dubbed "Chiraq" because violent neighborhoods can seem like a war zone. In a city that saw more than 400 homicides and a 14 percent uptick in shooting victims last year, it's the mayor who has the authority in picking the police superintendent to clamp down on crime. The police superintendent deploys police officers and

implements crime-fighting strategies to combat violence. If CNN's documentary series "Chicagoland" was any indication, it's clear Mayor Emanuel is often in touch with his police chief.

Chicago's cheerleader

The mayor is the city's biggest cheerleader to promote

Chicago as a great place to work, live and visit. He recruits companies and convinces them to bring jobs and relocate their corporate head-quarters to Chicago. The Chicago area is home to more than 400 major corporate headquarters and specifically eight Fortune 500 companies in the city. Since Mayor Emanuel took office in 2011, about 30 companies have picked Chicago for their headquarters and more than 53,000 jobs have been created including some at startups based at the 1871 entrepreneurial hub.

Road rules

Caught on camera blowing a red light? Or speeding? Well, sure, drivers have to own up to breaking the law—but the mayor had some role in that ticket. Two different mayors brought those cameras into the city. And that's on top of the controversial parking meter deal drivers are reminded of every time

they have to pay the meter. Mayor Richard M. Daley pushed through the deal to lease the parking meters for 75 years for \$1.15 billion upfront, which he spent most of while the private company continued to raise parking meter rates.

Parks and recreation

WHAT DO THEY MAKE?

24-hours-a-day, seven-days

a-week job. And it doesn't

pay as much as being the

CEO of a company would. The mayor's annual salary in

Chicago is \$216,210, which is

less than the police superin-

tendent who reports to him.

Running the city is a

Run along the lakefront path? Rock out dur-

ing Lollapalooza in Grant Park or Riot Fest in Humboldt Park? It's all park district property and the mayor has a hand in picking who runs the park district like he does with other sister agencies including the CTA and public schools. Mayor Emanuel supported a smoking ban in parks, offered George Lucas a lakefront site on the

Museum Campus and is behind the proposal to transfer park property to the city to put the Obama presidential library in Jackson Park or Washington Park.

A taxing job

When you buy a ticket to a Hawks game, you might notice an amusement tax on your ticket stub that gets paid to the city. If the price of a pack of smokes went up last year, you can thank the city for raising the cigarette tax by 50 cents so it costs \$7.17 per pack. Residents have been forced to pay more out of their pockets because of tax and fee hikes needed to help balance the city's budget and pay for services. Every year, the mayor proposes a budget to pay for city services such as police patrols to pothole repairs. He needs to get the City Council to sign off on it before his programs and initiatives can go into effect.

LVIVANCO@REDEYECHICAGO.COM | @LVIVANCO

YOUR ALDERMAN: THE GO-TO PERSON FOR CRIME, POTHOLES AND WEIRD FOOD LAWS

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

From deciding whether a bar will open up on your street to facilitating the permit for your block party to voting on the mayor's propos-

als, your alderman has a say on the look and feel of your neighborhood.

The city's 50 aldermen make up City Council, the city's legislative body, and serve as head cheerleaders for their wards. They typically are the first people residents contact when they have a problem with parking,

potholes or the noisy bar down the block. As kings or queens of their wards, they often advocate for better transit services, more businesses setting up shop and round-the-clock street maintenance in their area.

Aldermen are elected to four-year terms, and all 50 aldermanic seats are up for election Feb. 24. Here's a look at the types of decisions

aldermen make that can affect your quality of life.

Business blocker

When Chick-fil-A announced in 2012 that it wanted to set up a chicken restaurant on the Northwest Side, Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno (1st) said he would block the move

because the company gave donations to groups that opposed gay marriage. Moreno and Chick-fil-A eventually reached a deal so the restaurant could move into the neighborhood, but the controversy showed the power an alderman has in determining which businesses set up shop in his or her

Street closures & liquor licenses

Aldermen also can weigh in on liquor licenses for restaurants that want to serve booze and liquor stores, and facilitate permits to host block parties, parades, sidewalk sales and any event that requires a street closure.

The proposals

Aldermen meet once a month to vote on the mayor's agenda such as raising the minimum wage for Chicago workers to \$13 per hour by 2019 and selling the parking meters to a private company, but they also push their own proposals. Rogers Park Ald. Joe Moore (49th)

proposed the 2006 banning of foie gras, a bird liver delicacy served in Chicago restaurants. The City Council repealed the ban years later. Credit aldermen for devising and pushing recent bans on shooting videos from under women's skirts without their consent and allowing pedicabs to operate downtown.

\$1 million question

Each year, every alderman is awarded more than \$1 million of "menu money" to spend on infrastructure improvements in their ward. Some aldermen allow their residents to vote on how the money should be spent while some aldermen decide on the spending themselves. Projects may include resurfacing alleys, replacing streetlights, repaving sidewalks and adding bus benches.

TSWARTZ@REDEYECHICAGO.COM | @TRACYSWARTZ

5 MAJOR MAYORAL MISSTEPS

By Leonor Vivanco | REDEYE

During election season, politicians love to brag about their accomplishments and hope voters have a short memory when it comes to their mistakes—everybody makes them, but some blunders are bigger than others. Here's quick trip down memory lane to look at five gaffes Chicago mayors have committed.

Voters froze out Mayor Michael Bilandic. He bungled the city's response to the 1979 blizzard, failing to plow streets and collect garbage, and shutting down train stations in black neighborhoods. It's thought that the controversy helped **Jane Byrne** (right) beat him in the election soon after.





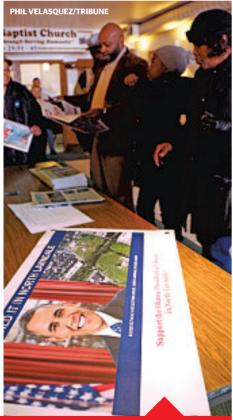
Mayor Richard M. Daley's park project downtown was supposed to commemorate the millennium, but it had some management hiccups. It ballooned in budget from \$150 million to more than \$490 million and opened four years late in 2004. To be fair, Millennium Park's features-like the Bean, above-are now iconic, and it's a major city attraction with more than 4 million annual visitors.



Nothing drives drivers mad more than parking meters. OK, maybe the red light and speed cameras. But drivers feed more money into the meters as the rates rise, thanks to the deal pushed through by Mayor Richard M. Daley to lease the meters for 75 years to a private company in exchange for \$1.1 billion that was almost all spent by the time Daley left office.

Mayor Richard M. Daley's unapologetic and secretive handling of the closing of Meigs Field is now infamous. In the middle of the night, he had bulldozers carve Xs on the single runway of the lakefront airport, leaving small airplanes stranded. The site, now called Northerly Island, has been turned into a concert venue and parkland.





Naming a school and park after President Obama has been problematic for Mayor Emanuel. He backed off in September from naming a college prep high school in honor of Obama after criticism, and battled with park preservationists over whether parkland in Jackson Park or Washington Park should be given up for the Obama presidential library. Above, residents gathered on Monday to support the UIC North Lawndale bid to build the library.





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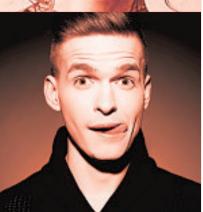
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chicago



Orland Park Bakery assistant manager Michelle Lundy fills boxes with paczkis Monday when the bakery was closed to prepare for Tuesday's Paczki Day, when they expect to sell more than 40,000 paczkis. For where to find pazckis in the city, go to **redeyechicago.com/paczki**. **CHUCK BERMAN/TRIBUNE**

Dispute deepens over Ernie Banks' will, estate

Chicago Tribune

Chicago Cubs Hall of Famer Ernie Banks told a Tribune reporter on the eve of his 65th birthday that when he died he wanted his body cremated and his ashes scattered over Wrigley Field "with the wind blowing out."

Now, three weeks after Banks suffered a fatal heart attack at 83, a dispute involving his posthumous wishes deepened Monday as the slugger's adult sons accused Banks' longtime caregiver, Regina Rice, of coercing him into signing a will that gave her control of his estate.

In a written statement issued Monday evening, Rice said that Banks had entrusted her to carry out his wishes after his death and that "I am determined to do just that."

Meanwhile, Banks' fourth wife, Elizabeth Banks, who was estranged from the former Cubs star at the time of his death, has filed a petition in Cook County Probate Court to prevent Rice from having his body cremated.

Additional court records show that Banks had filed for divorce from his wife in June 2012, citing mental cruelty, and that the court fight remained ongoing at the time of his death.

The developments set up what could be an ugly, three-way fight in probate court over Banks' estate, including rights to his memorabilia, business and charity entities, and other personal assets.

Banks' sons, Joey and Jerry, alleged that three months before their father died, Rice took advantage of his weakened physical state and got him to sign all of his assets over to her.

"My father was ill at the time she had him sign a will and I believe coerced him to give all of his assets to her," Joey Banks said in a statement.

The sons said Rice made it difficult for them to speak to their father in the months before his death.

"At the funeral of my father, I went out of my way to praise Ms. Rice and her son for helping my father," Joey Banks said in the statement. "What I did not know at the time is that for at least six months prior to my father's death, in my opinion, she was using him, manipulating him and controlled him."

Mark Bogen, a Banks family attorney, said his sons "will vigorously fight and contest this will."

EXPRESS LINES

- » A pilot was being evaluated Monday after his small plane slid off the runway at Midway Airport, the Chicago Fire Department said. The FAA is investigating the incident.
- » A Feb. 6 fire at the Noble Horse Theatre, 1410 N. Orleans St., that destroyed or damaged 13 carriages has been ruled arson, police said Monday, and FBI officials are investigating.
- » Latinos are poised to pick up at least two City Council seats in aldermanic elections, the reflection of a new ward map and rising population in Chicago.

DO YOU SNORE? ARE YOU OFTEN TIRED?



If you have sleep apnea, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study investigating a new drug treatment for sleep apnea.

Obstructive sleep apnea is associated with increased risk for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, daytime sleepiness and motor vehicle accidents. Treatment of sleep apnea is currently limited to surgery or medical device. A clinical trial is underway at the University of Illinois at Chicago evaluating an investigational drug therapy for the treatment of sleep apnea.

If you are between the ages of 21 and 64, and have obstructive sleep apnea, you may be eligible to participate in this study. Eligible study participants may receive study-related medical examinations and medication at no cost. Study participants will also be compensated for their time and travel.

To learn more about this research study or to find out if you qualify for screening, please call 1-312-996-2428.

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554 feet, 7 and 11/32 inches

That's the government surveyors' new measurement of the Washington Monument as measured from the floor of the main entrance to the top, which is nearly 10 inches shorter than what has been thought for more than 130 years, officials announced Monday. Ever since the stone obelisk was completed in 1884, the historic height has been recorded at 555 feet, 5 and 1/8 inches.



A fire burns Monday after a train carrying more than 100 tankers of crude oil derailed in West Virginia, sending at least one into the Kanawha River about 30 miles southeast of Charleston, igniting at least 14 tankers and sparking a house fire, officials said. Nearby residents were told to evacuate as state emergency response and environmental officials headed to the scene. There were no immediate reports of injuries. AP

THE DIGIT

170,000 A 93-year-old former Nazi recently charged in Germany is thought to have facilitated the killing of more than 170,000 people at the Auschwitz death camp over about 18 months, court documents filed by prosecutors revealed Monday. According to court records, he was responsible for guarding prisoners and selecting individuals for the gas chambers from January 1943 to June 1944.

HOT DATE

FEB. 22 Inat's the new deadline to sign up for Obamacare, Department of Health and Human Services officials said Monday. The new deadline for enrolling in federally mandated health insurance has been extended for thousands of people who faced technical problems when they tried to sign up in the last three days of open enrollment on healthcare.gov, officials said.

Egypt strikes IS militants in Libya

Egypt bombed Islamic State militants in neighboring Libya on Monday and called on the United States and Europe to ioin an international military intervention in the chaotic North African state after IS beheaded Egyptian Christians.

Uber expands service in Illinois

The ride-booking service Uber has expanded in Illinois to Champaign-Urbana, Bloomington-Normal, Rockford and Aurora in addition to its Chicago and Springfield operations.

False gunman warning panics LAX

A mistaken public announcement that a gunman was on the loose at a Los Angeles International Airport terminal sent about 20 passengers fleeing from the gate area and onto the tarmac Monday, authorities said.



If this paper could talk...

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sports

BUT CAN THEY DO

400-YARD DASH, RAPID TWEET DELETION-WELCOME TO THE REAL NFL COMBINE

By Alex Quigley | FOR REDEYE

The NFL scouting combine begins Tuesday in Indianapolis, where potential draftees are scrutinized to unnecessary, ridiculous levels in the name of gathering

Hundredths of a second over 40 yards do not matter. Sixteenths of an inch of height do not matter. And many times, a player's performance ends up not mattering. Tom Brady had a horrible combine, dropped to a sixthround pick and became a god. Recall the

not-so-stellar pro careers of combine All-Stars Mike Mamula, Tony Mandarich and Darrius Heyward-Bey? (It's OK if vou can't.)

New Bears general manager Ryan Pace has a long list of holes to fill, and after last season's epic disaster he needs to be sure he's not just looking for future NFL talent. Specifically, Pace should seek skills and traits that make a potential draftee successful as a 2015 Chicago Bear.

These are the drills in which incoming Bears should excel.



This guy is always overthrowing the ball. Let's hope the Bears pay attention to the vertical leap at the NFL combine

All positions

Brandon

that ball

Young Bears need to master the 400-yard dash. That's not a typo-400 yards is the approximate distance from Bears training camp dorms to the back door of T.J. Donlins, a popular Bourbonnais bar for training camp-goers and Bears alike. If coach John Fox comes in the front door, players need to be back in 70 seconds or fewer.

Defensive line

It's extremely important that Bears D-linemen can celebrate sacks without sustaining season-ending injuries. New Bears choreography coach Cat Deeley should hold the clipboard for "So You Think You Can Celebrate a Sack."

Wide receiver

Here the Bears must stay conventional and

pay attention to the vertical leap, because Jay Cutler still is (over)throwing passes. The desire to print tone-deaf, nonsensical slogans on camo-patterned T-shirts will be viewed as a negative.

Special teams

Most rookies play significant roles on special teams. The Bears should run all players through the rigorous "Count to 11" drill, where they must successfully recognize that there are actually 11 players on the field for all plays, even fake punts.

All positions

New Bears social media coordinator Chris Hardwick orders players to type tweets responding to moronic fans while sitting on a toilet (we all know that's where it happens, right, Brandon Marshall?). Players are graded on how quickly they delete tweets. Bonus points are given to players who don't have Twitter accounts.

Safety

Players should be asked to simply stay on the field for a total of 60 minutes, at which point they will be more successful than Chris Conte.

Linebackers

Purely a written test, players are given a blank piece of paper and asked to write on it all valid reasons to miss the first practice of the regular

season. An automatic fail occurs if any of the following words are found: "feelings," "Lamborghini," "brisket."

Quarterbacks

If Heisman winner Marcus Mariota somehow still is available when the Bears pick seventh, they need to be sure he's their quarterback of the future. Specifically, whether his facial expressions will satisfy meathead Bears fans. The finest maxillofacial surgeon in Lake Forest should strap Mariota to a chair and take nanometer-precise laser measurements of his smiles and his pouts, if they exist.

All positions

Long- and short-distance mascot decapitation drills. Everyone older than 12 hates Staley. Just give this one to us, Ryan. ALEX QUIGLEY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Lance Briggs

fiveonfive

BOOM!

Mick Swasko's version of the NFL combine would be way more entertaining than the current version.



Sean Terry @craftbeersochi WeAreRegal Radio.com



Scott Bolohan @scottbolohan RedEye contributor



John Dooley gichicagotough Chicagotiow biogger



Mick Swasko @swasko RedEye reporter



Clark
Jones
@theaclarkjones
Stand-up
comic

10000			ammanimanimina amin'ny		aannaan aan aa ah	
	What could get you to watch the NFL combine?	Free food and booze at the watch party with Kyle Long.	Maybe if they gave out golden statues.	If they taped over it with an epi- sode of "The Walking Dead."	Explosions?	If it were the ONLY thing play- ing at that particular torture chamber.
2	What would qualify as "dramatic" improvements in NBA scheduling?	Baby mama suggested swag days off—seriously what are these dudes wearing?	If they scheduled two games with two different teams at the same time.	Eliminating all games where the Knicks are on TV.	Game played on a Tuesday at 9 a.m.	Removing the Lakers/Knicks from all games until they learn the basics of basketball.
3	Seriously, why is the NBA wait- ing so long to get its season restarted?	Who cares as long as the Bulls are 100 percent come playoff time?	They're waiting for the "SNL" special to end.	Ummm, well, some of us REALLY need to get caught up on "The Bachelor."	It's too busy watching "The Slap."	The engine's gotta run a little while first.
•	Who said this: "You guys really don't know [bleep]"?	Ozzie Guillen, the modern day ice Cube of the dugout.	Galileo Galilei.	My last project manager.	Ditka. Right? Has to be.	The guy who fixes toilets in my neighborhood.
5	A public apology from Alex Rodriguez at Yankee Stadium would be	a slap in the face to Sammy Sosa.	the sucklest plan on the face of the Earth.	like me apologizing for steal- ing breadsticks at Olive Garden. It happened. Let's move on.	the most fun a baseball stadium has seen since Disco Demolition.	not how the casting for Lou Gehrig should be handled.



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Marian Hossa (center) had a week to remember, and he was recognized for it as the NHL named him its First Star for the week ending Feb. 15. The Blackhawks forward led the league with five goals and added an assist in four games to help the team extend its points streak to six. He began the week with a pair of two-goal efforts, which followed up on a previous game with two scores to become the sixth Hawks player in history to record three consecutive multi-goal performances.



"He's getting his swag back. ... Coming off injury, your confidence level is very low. [Last] summer. I was with him and he was kind of looking to get into a rhythm. Now, he is playing way better." -Houston Rockets guard James Harden, on Derrick Rose

Suggestion: Blow it up

Like the Bartman ball famously destroyed at Harry Caray's in 2004, the glove used by Jeffrey Maier to assist Derek Jeter's infamous home run against Baltimore in 1996 could suffer the same fate. The glove is up for auction: the top bid was at \$13,000 by Monday afternoon on Heritage Auctions

THE DIGIT

An arbitration panel ordered Lance Armstrong and Tailwind Sports Corp. to pay \$10 million in a fraud dispute with a promotions company for what it called an "unparalleled pageant of international perjury, fraud and conspiracy" that covered up his use of performance-enhancing drugs.







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Sky trade for Chicago native

The Sky have acquired guard Cappie Pondexter from New York for Epiphanny Prince in a blockbuster trade.

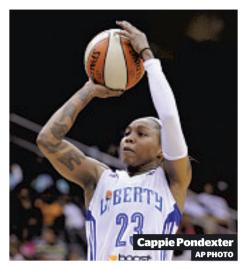
Pondexter, who averaged a career-low 13.2 points last season, was raised in Chicago and attended Marshall High School.

"Being able to play for a team and coach with an opportunity to win a championship is exciting," said Pondexter, 32. "And coming home to do it is the best part!"

Pondexter won two WNBA titles with Phoenix, earning finals MVP honors in 2007. She's a five-time All-Star.

"I am thrilled to have one of the league's most fierce competitors join our team," Sky coach/general manager Pokey Chatman said. "Cappie's ability in the open court, half court, as well as on the defensive end of the floor. make us a better team."

Prince averaged 15 points last season in helping the Sky reach the WNBA Finals for the first time in franchise history.



"It's bittersweet. I'm grateful for everything that organization has done for me," the point guard said. "Pokey and [Sky owner] Michael [Alter] care about me as a person and wanted to do the best thing that's good for me."

THE FINISH LINE

» Amar'e Stoudemire becomes free agent after Knicks buy out his contract

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■Fifty Shades of Grey (R) ★ D 12:30,1:35,3:30,4:30,6:30,7:35,9:30,10:30
■The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG) D 12:45,2:15,3:05,4:45,

7:20, 9:50

**Luptier Ascending 30 (PG-13) B 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:55

**The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Dut of Water 30 (PG) B 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

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■AMC Independent Wipiplash (R) B 4:30, 10:15
■The Loft (R) B 10:00
■Lupiter Ascending (PG-13) * B 11:00, 4:50, 10:45
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■The Wedding Ringer (R) D 11:00, 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 10:45 ■Fifty Shades of Grey (R) ★ D 11:40, 12:40, 1:40, 2:45, 3:50, 4:50, 6:00, 7:00, 7:50,

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■AMC Independent The Theory of Everything (PG+13) B 7:10

■The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water 30 (PG) ★ B 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 8:40

■Taken 3 (PG-13) B 12:30

■AMC Independent Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) (R) B 1:30, 6:10, 6:10, 6:10, 6:10)

■AMC Independent The Boy Next Door (R) £ 4:25, 9:40

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American Sniper (R) 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:30

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Inherent Vice (R) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 9:45

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:30, 8:20, 9:40, 10:40 Project Almanac (PG-13) £ 10:45

■Juniter Ascending 3D (PG-13) ★ 10 1:45, 7:50







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■Inherent Vice (R) VIP Premium 21 - 1:00, 10:05
■A Most Violent Year (R) VIP Premium 21 - 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:00
■Still Allor (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:30
■The Usear Nominated Short Films 20:15: Animated (NR) 2:45, 7:40
■Timbuktu (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:30, 9:50

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Fifty Shades of Grey: The IMAX Experience (R) ★ (Closed caption) 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

Royal Ballet - The Winter's Tale (NR) 7:00 Shades of Grey (R) ★ (Closed caption) 10:00, 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00,

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eventh Son (PG-13) * £ 1:40, 7:15

■Paddington (PG) € (Closed caption) 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 10:30

■Seventh Son 3D (PG-13) ★ Ð 11:40, 5:15, 10:40 ■ Jupiter Ascending (PG-13) ★ £0 4:20, 9:45

■Kingsman: The Secret Service (B) ★ 11:15 11:45 12:45 1:45 2:45 3:45 4:45

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■Project Almanac (PG-13) D 8:40 ■The Wedding Ringer (R) £ 8:10

■ Fifty Shades of Grey (R) ★ £ 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30. 9:30. 10:00

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■AMC Independent American Sniper (R) £ 11:40, 2:45, 5:40, 8:30, 9:30 ■AMC Independent Selma (PG-13) £ 2:30, 5:30

■Black or White (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 8:40, 10:40 ■AMC Independent Still Alice (PG-13) ★ D 11:30, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

■AMC Independent The Boy Next Door (R) £ 12:30, 5:45

■ Fifty Shades of Grey: The IMAX Experience (R) ★ £ 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00

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■Fifty Shades of Grey (R) ★ (Closed caption) 11:10, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00

■Kingsman: The Secret Service (R) ★ (Closed caption) 11:30, 12:20, 1:50, 3:20, 4:50, 6:20, 7:50, 9:20, 10:50

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■Black or White (PG-13) ★ Ð (Closed caption) 7:10, 9:55 ■AMC Independent The Boy Next Door (R) Ð 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

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American Sniper (R) √ (Closed caption) 7:20, 10:40

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■Somewhere Only We Know (NR) ★ (Closed caption) 2:20, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20 VIP Premium 21+

■ Fifty Shades of Grey (R) ★ (Closed caption) VIP Premium 21+ 12:00. 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:00

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Whiplash (R) 1200, 220, 440, 700, 920

Whipsparmar: The Secret Service (R) (Closed caption) 1140, 420, 700, 840

Wingsman: The Secret Service (R) (Closed caption) 1100, 140, 425, 710, 945

■ Fifty Shades of Grey (R) (Closed caption) 11:20, 1:00, 2:00, 3:40, 4:40, 6:20,

7:20, 9:00, 10:00
■ The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG) (Closed caption) 11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
■ American Sniper (R) (Closed caption) 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40

EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

UEN LIUKY 12/LUNEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123 &
■. Upiter Ascending (PG-13) B (Dosed caption) 1:35, 7:30
■. Upiter Ascending 10 (FG-13) (Closed caption) 10:55, 12:00, 3:00, 4:25, 6:00, 9:00, 10:10
■ The Royal Ballet - The Winter's Tale (NR) B 7:00
■ Whiplash (R) B (Closed caption) 11:40, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
■ The Imitation Game (PG-13) B (Closed caption) 10:45, 1:40, 4:35, 7:20
■ Paddington (PG) B (Closed caption) 12:25, 2:55
■ Selma (PG-13) B (Closed caption) 10:50, 4:40, 7:35
■ American Sniper (R) B (Closed caption) 11:30, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 8:30, 10:20

| March | Mar

05. 4:35. 7:05. 9:35 205, 435, 705, 9:35 "The Spongebol Movie: Sponge Out of Water 3D (PG) (Closed caption) 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:40 "Mingsman: The Secret Service (R) D (Closed caption) 11:00, 12:20, 1:55, 3:15, 4:50, 6:10, 7:45, 9:05, 10:40

■ Fifty Shades of Grey (R) (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40 ■ Fifty Shades of Grey (R) € (Closed caption) 10:40, 12:45, 1:30, 3:35, 4:20,

625, 7:10, 9:15, 10:00

■A Most Violent Year (R) D 1:45

Still Alice (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

■The Imitation Game (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 10:00

Selma (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 7:00

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

- 164 State Street (312) 846-2800
- 4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago (773) 784-4893
 The Imitation Game (PG-13) * 5:10, 7:40, 10:15
 The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG) 4:50, 7:00, 9:15
 Effty Shades of Grey (Pd. 440, 7:20, 10:00
 Kingsman: The Secret Service (R) * 5:00, 7:45, 10:30



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7	9	3	1	4	6	2	8	5
4	8	6	5	7	2	3	1	9
9	6	7	2	5	3	1	4	8
3	1	4	8	6	9	7	5	2
2	5	8	4	1	7	6	9	3
8	7	9	6	2	4	5	3	1
1	4	2	3	9	5	8	7	6
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MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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TODAY IN THE YEAR...

1817: A street in Baltimore became the first to be lighted with gas from America's first gas

1904: Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly" received a poor reception at its premiere at Milan's La Scala Theater.

2010: Lindsey Vonn became the first American woman to win gold in the Olympic downhill, and U.S. snowboarder Shaun White repeated his gold medal Olympic win in the halfpipe event.

ACROSS

- Hailed vehicles Around, timewise
- Strong ox Western state Assumed name
- Big name in pineapple Drill a hole Autographs Make fun of
- Unfair slant
- Vote into office
- Dog Long-tailed rodent Not genuine Kit or Johnny

- Perjurers
 Treble _; music symbols
 Sworn promise
- Sworn promise
 Split _; hair problem
 Incline; slope
 Alpha's follower
 Generation
- 10 14 15 16 17 18 20 21 22 23 25 26 28 31 32 34 36 37 38 39 40 41
- Shoreline
- Like listeners at
- monotonous speeches
 Actor _ James Olmos
 Linger in a bookstore
 Shack
 Egypt's capital
- 42 44 45 46 47 50 51 54 57 58 59 60 61 62 63
- Spring month
- Lose color
- Fraternity letter
- Covering Similar Bridal veil fabric Actor Willem
- Cowboy Autry
- Peeners
- Derisive smile
- Likelihood

- Castro's land Sitting upon
- That woman
- Gambling house Epic by Homer Big _; semis Is able to
- Happy _ clam
- Grown-ups
- Actor Guinness

55

15

- In _; weeping
 Abbott and Collyer
 "_ is not to reason why...
 Huck Finn's float
- 26 27 Tearful request

36

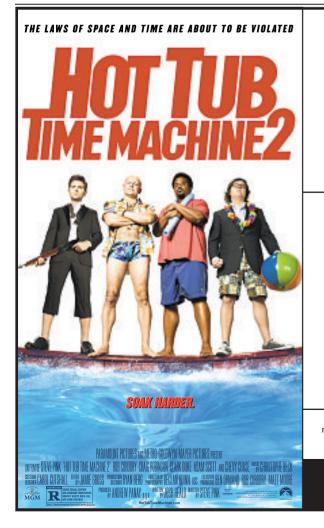
Burn the edges of

Bird's home

- Penny Exhausted from
- 30 C-sharp and A-flat, e.g.
- __in; wearing __ruces, NM Walk in ankle-deep water __of; slightly Crude person
- 38 40 Fill cracks with putty
- Soft cheese
- Complains childishly Pester
- Qualified "Hamlet," e.g. Run fast Small flute

60

- Female red deer
- Change for a five Asner & Koch Light brown In the past
- 47 48 49 50 52 53 55 56 57



YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING

Log on to Gofobo.com/REHTTM2

for your chance to win a pair of passes to the screening on February 18!

Plus. head to tinyurl.com/HTTM2SkiChi

and enter for your chance to win a weekend getaway at Shanty Creek Resorts



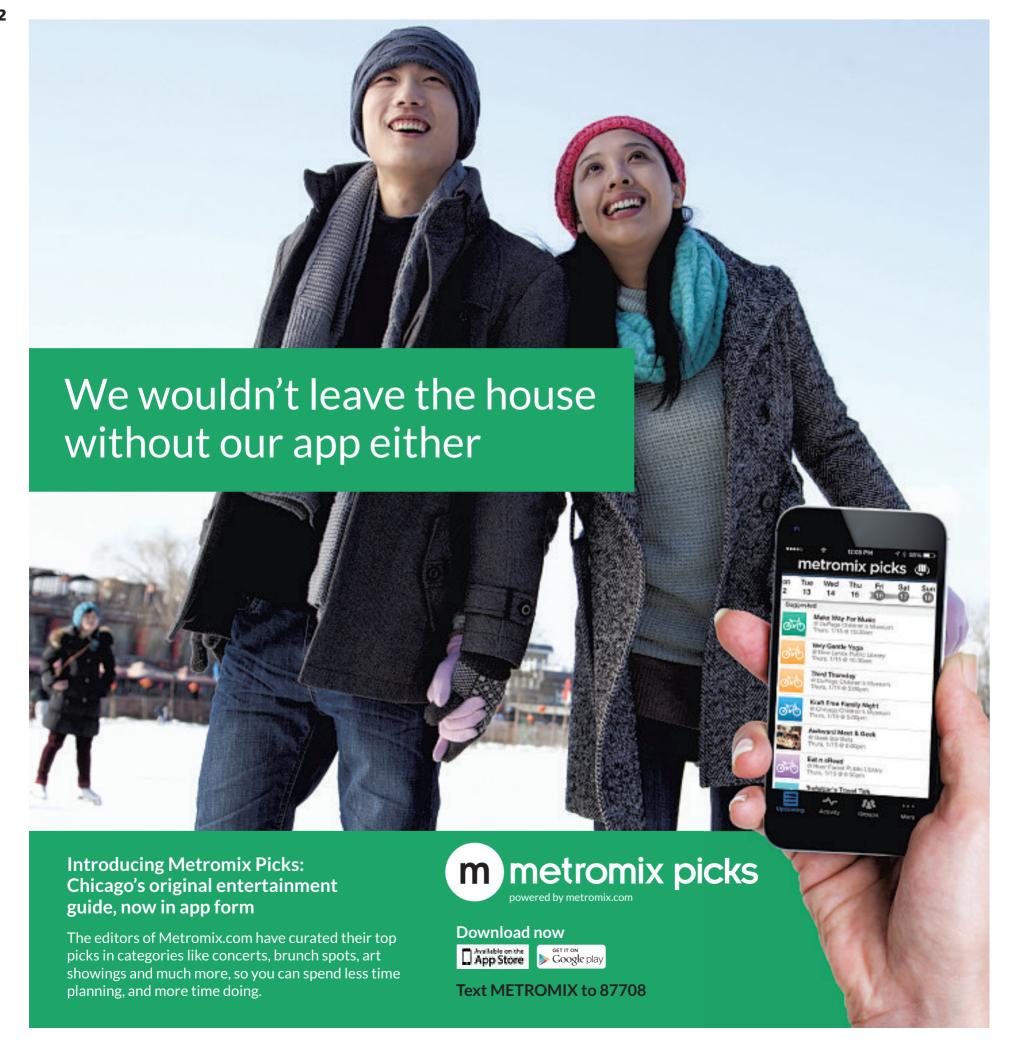
Just northeast of Traverse City, Michigan, discover Shanty Creek Resorts. Within its 4.500 acres are two ski mountains, an alpine tubing park, 30km of Nordic trails, horse-drawn sleigh rides. dogsledding, hundreds of lodging options, and more.

THE GRAND PRIZE INCLUDES:

- Two (2) Nights Lodging for up to four guests
 - Four (4) two-day Lift Tickets
 - Four (4) two-day Ski Rentals
- Redeemable through end of the 2015/16 ski season.
- Blackout Dates: Dec 26, 2015-Jan 2, 2016; Feb 12-15, 2016.
- Learn more at shantycreek.com It's a Beautiful Day at Shanty Creek Resorts.

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IN THEATERS FEBRUARY 20





THE QUOTE

"It's a 180-degree difference. One, we're shooting almost exclusively on location. We've been so broke on 'Community,' we haven't left our set in years. And it's a much more efficient show. One day, we finished everything by lunch and I was, like, 'What world am I in?' "

-Gillian Jacobs, to Vulture, on the difference between working on "Community" and "Girls." She's guest-starring on the latter show as Adam's new girlfriend.

The end of Ariana?

"The electrical disturbances will be catastrophic!" Thus begins the new video for Ariana Grande's "One Last Time," as a comet streaks over Earth. A shaky cam follows as she explores the damage the comet hath wrought, leading us to believe she's DEFINITELY in the market for a movie career crossover. Her ponytail, at least, could be up for some major awards.





Genie in cowboy boots

Christina Aguilera is about to bring a little "Dirrty" to "Nashville." The "Voice" coach has signed for a multi-episode arc on the country music drama, tvline.com reports. She'll play Jade St. John, a pop singer yearning to make her mark on the country charts. Shades of T-Swizzle, anyone? Also, Jade St. John is a delightfully awful name.

THE DIGIT

\$150,000 That's the value of

this year's Oscars swag bag, according to Distinctive Assets, the group handing out the prizes Sunday. That includes a \$14,584 train ride through the Canadian Rockies, a \$249.99 vaporizer and \$900 worth of personal training sessions. The personal training sessions are all with the same woman though, so she's going to be awfully busy for the rest of the year.



Will's worst

Will Smith has seen huge success with movies like "Independence Day," "Men In Black" and "Ali," but they all can't be winners. The actor tells Esquire magazine that he counts "After Earth" as his biggest failure—bigger, even, than the ridiculous "Wild Wild West." "My son was involved in 'After Earth' and I led him into it. That was excruciating," he said. "What I learned from that failure is how you win." Good lesson.

